

thorized to accept service of process for the corporation; and notice to or service upon such agent, or mailed to the business address of such agent, shall be deemed notice to or service upon the corporation.

(Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, § 5, 69 Stat. 487.)

§ 636. Membership

(a) Eligibility

All persons of good moral character who are, have been, or may become members of the Armed Forces of the United States or any foreign country of whatever rank, who have received or who may hereafter receive a Congressional Medal of Honor, a Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or a Navy Cross awarded for acts of extraordinary heroism in connection with military or naval operations against an armed enemy, or for heroism of a specially distinguished character, shall be eligible for active membership in the corporation.

(b) Extension of eligibility to parents and descendants

The corporation shall have the power, moreover, to extend eligibility for membership, either active or associate, to parents and lineal descendants of the persons described in subsection (a) of this section under such conditions and upon such terms as the corporation may specify in its constitution and bylaws.

(c) Voting rights

Each member of the corporation, other than associate members, shall have the right to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote at all meetings of the members of the corporation.

(d) Exception

Notwithstanding the limitations set out in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, any member in good standing of the corporate body referred to in section 646 of this title shall be admitted on request to comparable membership in the corporation created by this chapter.

(Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, § 6, 69 Stat. 488; June 21, 1961, Pub. L. 87-56, § 2, 75 Stat. 95.)

AMENDMENTS

1961—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 87-56 inserted "Air Force Cross" after "Distinguished Service Cross,".

§ 637. Governing body

(a) Composition

Upon the enactment of this chapter the membership of the initial board of directors of the corporation shall consist of the present officers of the Army and Navy Legion of Valor, referred to in section 646 of this title, or such of them as may then be living and are qualified officers of that corporation, to wit: William Oliver Smith, of Raleigh, North Carolina; Peter Paul Martinek, of Glendale, California; Lucian Adams, of San Antonio, Texas; Edgar H. Bain, of Goldsboro, North Carolina; and Ben Prager, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who are respectively, the commander, the senior vice commander, the junior vice commander, the chaplain, and the adjutant and quartermaster.

(b) Tenure

Thereafter, the board of directors of the corporation shall consist of such number (not less

than ten), shall be selected in such manner (including the filling of vacancies), and shall serve for such terms as may be prescribed in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

(c) Duties

The board of directors shall be the governing board of the corporation and shall, during the intervals between corporation meetings, be responsible for the general policies and program of the corporation. The board shall be responsible for all finances of the corporation.

(Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, § 7, 69 Stat. 488.)

§ 638. Officers

(a) The officers of the corporation shall be a commander, a senior vice commander, a junior vice commander, a chaplain, an adjutant and quartermaster, a judge advocate, an inspector, a surgeon, a historian, and such aides-de-camp as may be provided in the constitution and bylaws.

(b) The officers of the corporation shall be elected in such manner and for such terms and with such duties as may be prescribed in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

(Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, § 8, 69 Stat. 489.)

§ 639. Distribution of income or assets to members; loans

(a) No part of the income or assets of the corporation shall inure to any member, officer, or director, or be distributable to any such person otherwise than upon dissolution or final liquidation of the corporation as provided in section 645 of this title. Nothing in this subsection, however, shall be construed to prevent the payment of compensation to officers of the corporation in amounts approved by the executive committee of the corporation.

(b) The corporation shall not make loans to its officers, directors, or employees. Any director who votes for or assents to the making of a loan to an officer, director, or employee of the corporation, and any officer who participates in the making of such loan, shall be jointly and severally liable to the corporation for the amount of such loan until the repayment thereof.

(Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, § 9, 69 Stat. 489.)

§ 640. Nonpolitical nature of corporation

The corporation, and its officers and directors as such, shall not contribute to or otherwise support or assist any political party or candidate for public office.

(Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, § 10, 69 Stat. 489.)

§ 641. Liability for acts of officers and agents

The corporation shall be liable for the acts of its officers and agents when acting within the scope of their authority.

(Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, § 11, 69 Stat. 489.)

§ 642. Prohibition against issuance of stock or payment of dividends

The corporation shall have no power to issue any shares of stock or to declare or pay any dividends.